



Chalk Paint® - Getting Started

When Annie Sloan developed her unique decorative paint, Chalk Paint®, over 25 years ago, she revolutionized painting. Frustrated with the lack of paint options available at the time, she created her signature paint – with its remarkable versatility and ease of use – for the DIY enthusiast as well as the expert faux-finisher.

It really is simple to achieve stunning results with Chalk Paint® decorative paint. Especially if you know how. Be liberal – be lavish! Enjoy your painting, and don't be shy with the brush. It will help you find your style.

Some classic finishes step by step



Simple vintage look



* Apply a coat of Chalk Paint® moving the brush in all directions.

* Apply Annie Sloan Clear Soft Wax with a lint-free cloth or brush, working the wax into the paint like hand cream and removing any excess as you go.

* *Optional* * Remove a little of the paint using a fine or medium-grit sandpaper, until you achieve the finish you always imagined.

* *Optional* * For a great antique look, use Dark Soft Wax. Work it into your (still wet) Clear Soft Wax and spread. Wax small areas at a time, and remove excess wax with Clear Soft Wax as you go.

* Finish by making sure that every part of your furniture has been waxed at least once with a lint free cloth.

Two color distressing



* Apply two coats of Chalk Paint®, moving the brush in all directions. Use two different coordinated colors as first and second coats. Apply the second coat thinner than the first.

The rustic, 'chippy' look

* Leave the paint in the fridge for a few hours to get it really thick.



* Paint two coats (or even three in some parts) and leave to dry – or you can use a hairdryer get some really good cracks.

* When it's dry, 'knock' the paint off with a piece of folded sandpaper.

Smooth modern finish

* Sand the surface with medium-grit paper to smooth out any prominent textures.



* Water down your paint and apply it smoothly and evenly with a brush in the same direction as the grain.

* *Optional* * When the paint is dry, use a fine sandpaper – 600-grit or higher – to buff the finished surface.

"Avoid perfectionism! The distressed look isn't difficult to achieve, and by nature it's not supposed to be perfect." - Annie Sloan

Want to know more? Each Annie Sloan Stockist can offer you workshops and practical advice on these and other techniques from the Annie Sloan Method.

No priming, no sanding? Really.

Chalk Paint® adheres to almost any surface, indoors or out – and there's rarely any need to sand or prime before painting. Just get stuck into the fun bit: amazing results that are easy to achieve.

If you're working with new, untreated wood, you'll need to apply clear shellac to wood knots and open grains. This

will block tannins that can bleed through the paint.

If you see a yellow or pink stain coming through the paint on older furniture – typically from the 1930s and 1940s – apply clear shellac. One or two coats of shellac applied with a cloth pad will stop this happening. It dries in minutes, and then you can get on with your painting!



Capture the versatility of Chalk Paint®

Annie Sloan may have developed Chalk Paint® for furniture, but there are many more creative ways to use it.

In the garden — You can use Chalk Paint® on exterior walls, garden furniture (except teak), metal, concrete, matt plastic – even terracotta. Just leave it to harden overnight and then wipe it down with a damp cloth before exposing it to rain. No need to wax.

Walls — Apply with a sponge roller or large brush to achieve a slight texture. You can then wax it with a big brush, or just leave it – bedrooms walls look great with a soft, matte, unwaxed finish.

Metal — You can paint straight onto all kinds of hardware, including metal work. Chalk Paint® can re-invigorate old brass and other metal fixtures and fittings, and it even covers and slows down rust.

Kitchen cabinets — You can achieve beautiful results using Chalk Paint® on – and in – your cabinets. Apply at least two coats of paint, and then two or three coats of Annie Sloan Soft Wax to seal and protect them. Simple.

Floors — Chalk Paint® can transform old concrete and wooden floors, even if they're varnished. Just apply two or three coats of Chalk Paint®, and then apply Annie Sloan Lacquer with a sponge roller, for added durability.

"Chalk Paint® is thick so you can create texture with your brush. If you prefer a smooth finish, just add a little water!" - Annie Sloan



Wonderful results with Annie Sloan Soft Wax

Annie Sloan Soft Wax is the perfect complement for Chalk Paint®. In fact, we'd say it's an essential partner! It's really easy to get sensational results – just use a cotton rag, or a specially designed Annie Sloan Wax Brush, to get it into corners and crevices.

- * When you apply the wax, 'push' it into your Chalk Paint® for the best results. Think hand cream – and apply it in the same way! Remove excess wax with a clean cloth.
- * Less is more, so there's no need to apply wax too thickly. The wax will feel touch-dry immediately after you've applied it.
- * Work small areas at a time, so the wax doesn't dry before you get to work it in.
- * Push Dark Soft Wax into crevices, and wipe it back with the Clear Soft Wax to achieve your perfect result.
- * The Wax will be dry to the touch very quickly but take longer to harden or 'cure'.
- * The 'curing' process can take 5 - 21 days depending on ambient temperature.
- * If you want to achieve a really good shine, allow around 24 hours before buffing.
- * Annie Sloan Soft Wax is food-safe when completely cured.

"There's rarely any need to sand or prime before painting. Just get stuck into the fun bit!" - Annie Sloan



Your Annie Sloan brush

- * Wash your Annie Sloan Pure Bristle Brush well with warm water after painting to rinse out all the color.
- * You can wash out wax from your Annie Sloan Wax Brush, too. Simply wash it with warm water and grease-cutting soap to clean it.



Looking great for longer

- * To clean marks or stains, use a slightly damp cloth or chamois with a little mild soap. If you need to use a stronger cleaner, you may have to re-wax the area.
- * Keep away from extreme temperatures or humidity. Like you, your finish prefers a moderate climate!
- * Waxes dissolve in alcohol, so using them on bars is not advisable!

Your local stockist:

the Bower decor market

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